KEVIN MICHAEL CHONG

FREE DOWNLOAD

THE PREPARED DRUMMER CHECKLIST

A before-you-leave gear check for showing up ready, sounding professional, and making the gig easier for everyone.

TAKE 60 SECONDS BEFORE YOU WALK OUT THE DOOR.

Check each item as it goes into the car, your case, or your gig bag.



01 STICKS AND PERSONAL GEAR

- [ ] Drumsticks
- [ ] Backup drumsticks
- [ ] Stick bag
- [ ] Stick holder
- [ ] In-ear monitors
- [ ] In-ear case
- [ ] Hearing protection
- [ ] Tuning key / multi-tool

02 DRUMS AND HARDWARE

- [ ] Required drums / drum kit
- [ ] Snare drum
- [ ] Cymbals
- [ ] Kick pedal
- [ ] Hi-hat stand and clutch
- [ ] Drum throne
- [ ] Required stands / mounts
- [ ] Drum rug
- [ ] Spare cymbal felts / sleeves
- [ ] Cases and covers

03 TECH AND POWER

- [ ] iPad or tablet
- [ ] Tablet stand / mount
- [ ] Phone
- [ ] Charging cables
- [ ] Power adapters / dongles
- [ ] Portable power bank
- [ ] Required audio cables
- [ ] Playback gear, if assigned

04 GIG-DAY ESSENTIALS

- [ ] Setlist and charts downloaded
- [ ] Tracks / click files downloaded
- [ ] Venue address and parking details
- [ ] Call time and contact saved
- [ ] Performance outfit and shoes
- [ ] Wallet / ID / keys
- [ ] Water and snack
- [ ] Other: _____

ARRIVE READY. SUPPORT THE ROOM.

Preparation matters most when it helps everyone do their job well.

05 ARRIVE AND SET UP PROFESSIONALLY



ARRIVE EARLY

Build in time for parking, load-in, setup, and unexpected delays.

INTRODUCE YOURSELF

Greet the musical director, engineer, production team, and other musicians.

BE STAGE-READY

Set up efficiently, keep your footprint tidy, and be ready before you are needed.

SOUNDCHECK LIKE A PROFESSIONAL

Soundcheck is not the time to show off. It is time to give the audio team clean information.

1. **WAIT FOR THE ENGINEER**
   Play only when asked, and play only the drum or cymbal they request.
2. **SPACE THE NOTES**
   Use clear, evenly spaced hits. Pause between notes so the engineer can adjust gain, EQ, gating, and compression.
3. **PLAY AT SHOW INTENSITY**
   Strike each piece at the level you expect to use during the performance. Consistent hits create a useful reference.
4. **BUILD THE FULL KIT SLOWLY**
   When asked to play, hold a steady groove for several bars. Then gradually introduce the rest of the drums and cymbals.

THE GOAL IS CLARITY - NOT CHOPS.

Help the engineer make your kit and the entire band sound their best.

06 PROTECT THE GIG

LISTEN

Avoid unnecessary playing while others are checking lines or receiving instructions.

SUPPORT

Follow the musical director, control your volume, and note last-minute changes.

FINISH WELL

Leave your area clean, thank the team, and confirm payment or follow-up.

READY TO GO BEYOND THE CHECKLIST?

Get the complete preparation systems, worksheets, and detailed tools inside the full packs.

THE WORKING MUSICIAN PREP PACK

For rehearsals, live gigs, sessions, travel, and professional communication.

VIEW THE PACK >

THE WORSHIP DRUMMER PREP PACK

For worship sets, rehearsals, charts, cues, transitions, and serving the team.

VIEW THE PACK >

THE TOURING MUSICIAN TRAVEL PACK

For itineraries, flights, hotels, transport, packing, and travel-day details.

VIEW THE PACK >